



# STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD

Friday, April 2, 2004 – 8:30 AM

Johnson County Conservation Education Center  
F.W. Kent Park, 2048 Highway 6 NW  
Three miles east of Oxford, Iowa

The Board will visit several sites nominated for preserve status on Thursday, April 1. We will meet at 1:00PM to begin the field trip in the parking lot of the McDonalds restaurant at Exit 240 of I-80. This is located in the NW quadrant of the intersection of I-80 and Highway 965. We will then drive to sites located in the Hawkeye Wildlife Area, Sandy Beach Recreation Area, and Lake MacBride State Park. The field trip is open to the public.

## ---Agenda Topics---

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| 1 | Approve Agenda   | Decision   |
| 2 | Approve Minutes of January Meeting   | Decision   |
| 3 | Preserve nomination updates:<br><b>Banister-McGregor Woods-</b> The final report for the plant survey by Dean Roosa funded by the Preserves Board has been completed. A study area for evaluating road construction alternatives along the Lincoln Highway has been identified by Snyder & Associates.<br><b>Hartman Bluff-</b> Dedication papers have been signed by the County Conservation Board and Board of Supervisors of Black Hawk County. | Information (John Pearson)                               |
| 4 | <b>Cold Water Cave</b> – A cave system with over 15 miles of passage and an underground stream has become the focus of a controversy over access shafts and trail construction. The stream flowing through the cave exits at Cold Water Spring State Preserve.   | Information (John Pearson and Michael Bounk)             |
| 5 | <b>Loess Hills Study</b> – Senate File 2282 is a bill requiring the Natural Resource Commission and State Preserves Advisory Board conduct a study to determine the archaeological and paleontological significance of the loess hills and to determine the feasibility of designating an area of the loess hills as a prairie preserve.   | Information (John Pearson and Diane Ford-Shivvers)       |
| 6 | <b>Review of Assessment Systems</b> – A summary of several assessment schemes for preserve areas used by public and private conservation organizations will be presented.  | Information (Laura Jackson and Neil Bernstein)           |
| 7 | <b>Seed harvest request-</b> Bill Johnson of DNR Wildlife Bureau wishes to harvest prairie seed from Cayler Prairie.   | Decision (Bill Johnson)                                  |
| 8 | <b>Research Requests -</b><br><i>Jessica Skibbe</i> , graduate student at Iowa State University, was granted permission to conduct butterfly surveys on five preserves.<br><i>Benjamin Montgomery</i> , graduate student at the University of Michigan, is   | Information and Decision (Daryl Howell and John Pearson) |

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|    | requesting permission to continue studying leafy spurge on state preserves. <i>Embere Hall</i> wishes to expand research approved last year to study birds and snakes at Cayler and Anderson prairie preserves.  |  |
| 9  | <b>Volunteer Projects</b> - In cooperation with Sierra Club chapters, workdays to pull garlic mustard have been organized at Brush Creek Canyon (Saturday, May 22, 10AM) and White Pine Hollow (May 23, 1PM).  | Information (John Pearson)               |
| 10 | <b>Friends Group</b> – Merry Rankin, DNR Volunteer Coordinator, has agreed to post the guidelines for Friends of the Preserve on the DNR website under the Volunteer Group. She will also be the first mediator for how a person can become a volunteer. We need to next promote the idea to our various groups. | Information (Neil Bernstein)             |
| 11 | <b>Proposal Selection</b> - Copies of the proposals and the scoring information were distributed earlier. Board members should be prepared to discuss the various proposals before final scoring is completed at the meeting.  | Decision (Daryl Howell and John Pearson) |
| 12 | <b>Open Discussion</b>   | (Neil Bernstein)                         |
| 13 | <b>Next Meeting</b>  | Information (Neil Bernstein)             |